LEEK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

SOCIAL SECURITY

Annual Report

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year 1969

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Leek Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1969

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR J. TORR

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR J. RUSHTON

Members:

Councillor	J. W. Alcock	Councillor	S. Jackson
,,	J. T. Barks.	,,	J. Kidd
,,	G. Bond	,,	H. Mear
,,	F. E. Brocklehurst	,,	A. Mellor
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,,	G. Deaville	,,	G. Shufflebotham
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,,	H. Harrison	,,	J. G. Stubbs
,,	C. R. Hewlett, J.P.	,,	D. Sutton
,,	T. Hine	,,	F. Tunnicliffe
,,	S. E. Hulme	,,	S. G. Worthington

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

H. E. Wilson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.O., F.B.O.A.

Public Health Inspector:

D. K. PEDLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Food Inspector.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

T. SPENCER, Cert. R.S.I.

OFFICES

Public Health Department, 18 Stockwell Street, Leek, Staffs.
(Tel. Leek 2261)

Public Health Department,
18, Stockwell Street,
LEEK.

To the Chairman and Members of the Leek Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Annual Report for 1969 has been compiled in accordance with the Department of Health and Social Security Circular 1/76.

The mid-1969 population was estimated by the Registrar General to be 13,500, a decrease of 40 compared with 1968.

The number of live births was 207, giving a birth rate of 15.3 per thousand of population. This birth rate can be compared with the birth rate for England and Wales as a whole by multiplying the local birth rate by a factor known as the comparability factor which for this district in 1969 was 1.02. The adjusted birth rate was 15.6 compared with 16.3 for England and Wales. Further details will be found on page 4.

The number of deaths was 145 giving an adjusted death rate of 12.7 (comparability factor 1.19) compared with 11.9 for England and Wales. Diseases of the heart and circulatory system excluding hypertensive disease accounted for 88 or 60.9% of all deaths during the year, while malignant diseases accounted for 24 deaths or 16% of the total.

The number of confirmed cases of Infectious Disease was 14, of these measles accounted for 6 cases, Scarlet Fever 3 and Whooping Cough 2. There was also one case of Infectious Jaundice, a male aged 13 years. Other members of the family did not develop any symptoms. One case of Food Poisoning, a male aged 3 years was admitted to Bucknall Hospital where the infection was found to be due to Salmonella virchow.

The number of notifiable diseases in the district has diminished considerably, and as a result of the introduction of vaccination against measles, this illness will soon be a very rare disease. Parents are strongly advised to have their children immunised or vaccinated against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, smallpox and measles. Only in this way can these diseases be prevented in our community.

Although not a notifiable disease a local family doctor drew my attention to a case of Brucellosis in a male aged 21 years. Almost certainly this was contracted by drinking raw milk on the farm where he lived. No milk was retailed to the public without first being heat treated so that apart from explaining the dangers of drinking raw milk to the family concerned, no further action was necessary.

Milk sampling in the Leek Rural District is carried out regularly by the Staffordshire County Council and tested for Brucellosis and Tuberculosis. No milk was found to be infected by Tuberculosis but in six samples biological tests revealed Brucellosis. Five of these related to milk produced outside the

Leek Rural District Area but retailed within the district. Appropriate action was taken by the Medical Officer of Health in the neighbouring Authority to prohibit the sale of the milk for human consumption before heat treatment. The remaining sample was obtained from a farm which had only one customer and alternative arrangements were agreed for this consumer following my visit to the farm. Further details of milk sampling will be found on page 14.

Eight three-bedroomed houses and four one-bedroom bungalows were completed in the village of Longnor during the year. These were built primarily to re-house the families living in unsatisfactory accommodation. One hundred and eighty three houses are owned by the Council and the main difficulty in increasing this number is the problem of finding suitable sites.

The smooth running of the Refuse collection service was marred by strike action by the employees in September prompted by strikes elsewhere in the country and by excessive absenteeism due to the influenza outbreak at the end of the year which extended into 1970. The former was resolved by terms agreed with the employees which provided for a cash bonus incentive for maintaining the rounds on a day schedule basis. The influenza outbreak, occuring as it did after the Christmas holiday period had a most crippling effect on the service, half of the workmen being absent. In order to aleviate the situation plastic sacks were made available to householders.

Work proceeded satisfactorily on the construction of the new sewage disposal works at Endon as did the sewering of Bagnall and Stanley. A scheme for the sewering of Rudyard was prepared and submitted to the Ministry.

The district is supplied with mains water by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board and particulars relating to the supply may be found on page 10.

In presenting this report it is a pleasure to acknowledge the help I have received from members of the staff of the Health Department and co-operation of other departments of the Council. I appreciate, Mr. Chairman and members of the Health Committee, your interest and support during the year.

H. E. WILSON
(Medical Officer of Health)

GENERAL STATISTICS

AREA	71,675 Acres
No. of Inhabited Houses	4,679
Estimated Population	13,500
No. of Persons per Acre	.188
Rateable Value	£355,632
Net Product of 1d. Rate For Year Ended 31/3/69	£1,406.3.6

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	93	104	197
Illegitimate	7	3	10
	100	107	207

Birth rate per 1,000 of the population — 15.3

Adjusted birth rate (comparability factor 1.02)—15.6 (16.3)

Still Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	—	2	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	2	2

Still birth rate per 1,000 total birth—10 (13.0)

Deaths (all ages)	M	F	TOTAL
	86	59	145

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—10.7

Adjusted death rate (comparability factor 1.19)—12.7 (11.9)

Deaths of Infants (Under 1 year)	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	1	1	2

Infant Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births)—10.0 (18.0)

(The rates for England and Wales are shown in parenthesis)

TUBERCULOSIS

	Respiratory Tuberculosis			Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis			Total (Respiratory and Non-Respiratory)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Cases on Register 31/12/68	42	23	o5	7	8	15	49	31	80
New Cases Notified ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Inward Transfers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	42	24	66	7	8	15	49	32	81
Cases removed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases on Register 31/12/69	42	24	66	7	8	15	49	32	81

For purposes of comparison I give below the details of new notifications for the twelve years — 1958/1969.

	Respiratory Tuberculosis			Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis			Total (Respiratory and Non-Respiratory)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1969	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
1968	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1967	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1966	—	2	2	—	1	1	—	3	3
1965	3	1	4	—	—	—	3	1	4
1964	3	2	5	1	1	2	4	3	7
1963	1	—	1	—	2	2	1	2	3
1962	1	—	1	1	1	2	2	1	3
1961	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
1960	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	2
1959	4	1	5	1	1	2	5	2	7
1958	5	3	8	—	—	—	5	3	8

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The figures below show the Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1969 in comparison to those of the three preceding years:

	1969	1968	1967	1966
Measles	6	65	365	53
Whooping Cough	2	2	12	10
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	3	5	13	7
Infective Jaundice	1	2	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	4	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	1	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	1
Acute Encephalitis (P.1)	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	6	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis — Respiratory	1	—	—	2
Tuberculosis — Non-Respiratory ...	—	—	—	1
Total	14	82	399	82

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases

Parishes	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis	Dysentery	Acute Poliomyelitis	Food Poisoning	Paratyphoid Fever	Infective Jaundice
Alstonefield		1								
Bagnall										
Bradnop										
Brown Edge	1							1		
Butterton										
Endon and Stanley	3				1					
Fawfieldhead										
Grindon	1									
Heathylee				2						
Heaton										
Hollinsclough										
Horton				1						
Ilam										
Leekfrith										
Longnor										
Longsdon	1									
Onecote										
Quarnford		1								
Rushton										
Sheen										
Tittesworth										
Warslow and Elkstones										1
Wetton										
Total	6	2	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	1

Months of Occurrence

January				1				1		
February	1									
March		1								
April										
May										
June										
July										
August	1	1			1					
September										
October	2									1
November	2			2						
December										
Total	6	2	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	1

Notifiable Diseases — Age Groups

AGE GROUP	Measles		Whooping Cough		Pneumonia		Scarlet Fever		Acute Poliomyelitis		Dysentery		Food Poisoning		Respiratory Tuberculosis		Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis		Meningococcal Infection		Infective Jaundice		Paratyphoid Fever	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	1		1																					
1 year		1																						
2 years	1																							
3 years								1					1											
4 years				1																				
5— 9 years ...								2								1								
10—14 years ...	1																							
15—24 years ...		2																			1			
25—44 years ...																								
45—64 years ...																								
65 and over ...																								
Total (all ages)	3	3	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—		1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL — Male and Female	6		2		—		3		—		—		1		1		—		—		1		—	

CAUSES OF DEATH IN LEEK RURAL DISTRICT 1969

Causes of Death	Males	Females
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ...	—	1
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	—
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	4
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	5	—
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	4
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	3
B23 Anaemias	—	1
B46(3) Mental Disorders	—	1
B46(4) Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	1	—
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	—
B27 Hypertensive Disease	2	1
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	23	12
B29 Other forms of Heart Disease	12	3
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	15	15
B46(5) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	5
B31 Influenza	1	1
B32 Pneumonia	2	1
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	4	1
B34 Peptic Ulcer	1	—
B36 Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia ...	3	—
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—
B46(10) Diseases and Musculo-Skeletal System	—	1
B42 Congenital Anomalies	—	1
B43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	—
B45 Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions ...	—	1
BE47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	2
BE48 All Other Accidents	—	1
BE49 Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries ...	1	—
BE50 All Other External Causes	1	—
Total — all causes	86	59

Sanitary Inspection of the Area —

Summary of Visits

HOUSING

(a)	Housing Inspections	80
(b)	Council House applicants	41
(c)	Moveable dwellings	21
(d)	Improvement Grant applicants	198
(e)	Council Houses	5
		345

GENERAL:

Inspection of premises for nuisances	30
Food premises	13
Slaughterhouses and knacker's yard	328
Drainage inspections	199
Privy conversions	48
Water supplies — general	16
Samples of water taken	11
Offices, Shops and Railway premises	39
Refuse and nightsoil collection and disposal	492
Infectious diseases	31
Fumigations and Infestations	13
Rodent control	120
Factories	5
Petroleum stores	12
Miscellaneous	51
Milk Supply	1
Animal boarding establishments	1
	1,755

NOTICES SERVED:

1.		Informal Notices	53
		Statutory Notices	—
2.	(a)	Number of Nuisances Remedied	5
	(b)	Number of defective dwellings rendered fit following service of Statutory and Informal notices	30

WATER SUPPLIES

We are indebted to the Engineer, Manager and Clerk of the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board for the following information and comments relating to mains water supplies within the area.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CONNECTIONS MADE TO MAINS SUPPLIES DURING THE YEAR AND TOTAL NUMBERS OF PROPERTIES NOW CONNECTED

SCHEME	NEW CONNECTIONS DURING YEAR	TOTAL NUMBER OF CONNECTIONS at 31/12/68
EASTERN PARISHES	30	677
HORTON, LONGSDON & RUDYARD	4	259
RUSHTON & HEATON	3	168
BRADNOP	14	51
TOTAL	51	1155

SAMPLES OF MAINS TAKEN BY THE BOARD

Chemical Analysis:	Untreated water at source	12
	Treated water going into supply ...	118
Bacteriological Examination		200
Total for 1969		330

All waters leaving the Treatment Plant at Hulme End and in supply were 100% free from E. Coli I organisms and, therefore, of high bacterial purity, suitable for domestic purposes. Chemical treatment, including chlorination, maintains this high standard. The water is moderately soft, of high organic quality and contains only a slight trace of iron and manganese.

Owing to the widespread and relatively sparsely populated distribution area, some difficulty is experienced with discoloured water due to iron from the mains at "dead ends" in the system. A sampling rota for the area is in force thereby enabling these "dead ends" to be flushed as necessary.

WATER SAMPLES TAKEN FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION BY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Source	Number of Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
WELL	—	—	—
SPRING	9	3	6
BOREHOLE	—	—	—
RIVER	—	—	—
PUBLIC MAINS	2	2	—
TOTAL	11	5	6

FACTORIES ACT 1961

NUMBER OF FACTORIES ON REGISTER:—

Mechanical	6
Non-Mechanical	1
	7
NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE	5

Only one factory is of any size.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Thirty-three licences were issued for the bulk storage of 69,550 gallons of Petroleum spirit.

HOUSING

(a) NEW HOUSES ERECTED

By Private Enterprise	22
By Local Authority (Dove Ridge, Longnor) ...	12

(b) COUNCIL HOUSES

Eight 3 bedroomed houses and four 1 bedroom bungalows were completed at Longnor during the year. Sites for the provision of old people's bungalows at Brown Edge continued to be actively pursued.

(c) COUNCIL HOUSE APPLICANTS

Thirty-five new applicants were registered and at the end of the year there were 75 'live' applications on the waiting list.

(d) RENT ACT 1957

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received during the year.

(e) IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Housing Act 1969, which came into operation in August, included more generous and attractive terms to house owners wishing to improve their properties. Basically, the upper limit of Discretionary Improvement Grants was raised from £400 to £1,000 whilst the Standard Grant limit was raised from £155 to £200 with an upper limit of £450 for extended Grants (i.e. where it was necessary to provide septic tank drainage, where piped water was brought into the house for the first time, or when it was necessary, through lack of available room, to build on a bathroom extension).

Particulars relating to improvement Grants are set out in tabular form below and overleaf.

A. DISCRETIONARY

	Housing Acts 1961/1964		Housing Act 1969	
	Owner Occupier	Tenanted	Owner Occupier	Tenanted
Applications				
No. of applications received	3	—	1	—
,, ,, ,, b/fd from 1968	1	—		—
,, ,, ,, approved ...	1	—	1	—
,, ,, ,, refused	—	—	—	—
,, ,, ,, in abeyance		—	3	—
Completions				
No. of dwellings improved ...	8	2		—
,, ,, conversions of buildings to living accommodation ...	—	—	—	—

B. STANDARD

Applications	Housing Acts 1961/1964		Housing Act 1969	
	Owner/Occupier	Tenanted	Owner/Occupier	Tenanted
No. of applications received	6	1	13	1
,, ,, ,, approved ...	6	1	13	1
,, ,, ,, refused	—	—	—	—
,, ,, ,, in abeyance ...	—	—	—	—
Completions				
No. of dwellings improved	17	2	1	—

Amenities Provided		
(a) Fixed Bath or Shower	16	1
(b) Wash Hand Basin	17	1
(c) Hot Water Supply	17	1
(d) W.C.	19	1
(e) Food Store	10	

Extended Grants		
(a) Bathroom Additions	10	—
(b) Septic Tanks Installed	13	—
(c) Piped Water Installed	2	—

FOOD AND DRUGS

(a) **Brucellosis**

SUMMARY OF SAMPLES OF UNTREATED MILK TAKEN FOR BRUCELLA ABORTUS

	Ring Test		Culture		Biological	
	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.
Retail Street Milks	197	31	29	—	39	6
School Milks	12	—	—	—	2	—
School Canteen Milks	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals, etc. Milks	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	209	31	29	—	41	6

(b) **The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963**

There are no egg pasteurisation plants within the district.

(c) **Food Hygiene**

The majority of the shops in the district are of the small family type business and all are generally well maintained. Four mobile shops operate within the area. Advice was given where found necessary and in no case was any serious contravention of the Regulations noted.

(d) **Poultry Inspection**

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

(e) **Slaughterhouses and Knacker's Yards**

Three premises are licensed as Slaughterhouses and one as a Knacker's Yard. Particulars as to animals slaughtered, carcases inspected and meat condemned are set out in the table on the following page.

(f) **Ice Cream**

Seventy-one premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream. No premises are registered for manufacture.

(g) **Food Poisoning Outbreaks**

One case of Salmonella virchow was notified during the year.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	425	1	1,345	380	—
Number inspected	425	1	1,345	380	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	20	—	2	8	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	4.70	—	.14	2.10	—
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tubculosis	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

Weight of Meat condemned due to:—

(a) Tuberculosis ... ... — lb.

(b) Other diseases or conditions ... ... 243 lb.

243 lb.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

4lb. Corned Mutton; 18lb. Cooked Ham; 24lb. Tongue; 4½lb. Butter; 35 small tins miscellaneous Canned Foods.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

CLASS OF PREMISES	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
OFFICES	—	6	6
RETAIL SHOPS	—	12	12
WHOLESALE, SHOPS, WAREHOUSES	—	—	—
CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, CANTEENS	—	21	21
FUEL STORAGE DEPOTS	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	39	39

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES

CLASS OF WORK-PLACE	NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
OFFICES	17
RETAIL SHOPS	31
WHOLESALE DEPARTMENTS, WAREHOUSES	—
CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC	132
CANTEENS	—
FUEL STORAGE DEPOTS	—
TOTAL	180 (73 Male) (107 Females)

H. E. WILSON
Medical Officer of Health

D. K. PEDLEY
Public Health Inspector

RAINFALL — 1969

READINGS TAKEN AT HULME END PUMPING STATION
(Information supplied by courtesy of the Staffs. Potteries Water Board)

	inches
JANUARY	4.03
FEBRUARY	3.98
MARCH	3.02
APRIL	3.44
MAY	5.07
JUNE	2.4
JULY	2.26
AUGUST	2.59
SEPTEMBER	1.6
OCTOBER	1.05
NOVEMBER	5.9
DECEMBER	4.26
Total rainfall for year	**39.60**

PREVIOUS YEARS

	inches
1968	41.80
1967	40.80
1966	54.68
1965	50.56
1964	33.38

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